GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1173
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
CELLULAR MOBILE TELEPHONE NETWORK
ARUN KUMAR

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ways and means have been found to set up cost effective cellular mobile telephone network in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a)&(b): The Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Providers (CMSPs) may now setup their network using any technology, however, the technology must be digital. They are no more tied up with the GSM (Global System for Mobile communication) technology which was prescribed to them earlier. This is likely to bring down the cost of the network, but there shall be no compromise on quality of service.

So far, the tariff for Cellular Mobile Service is concerned, in terms of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India(Amendment) Act, 2000, the tariff is now fixed/regulated by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). The tariff plans proposed by the CMSPs are reported to TRAI. TRAI ensures that no tariff fixing which is detrimental to the subscriber`s interest will take place.